

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of the present amendment, the status of the claims will be as is shown below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-49 (Cancelled)

50. (New) A data management method, comprising:

receiving, at an information manager from a first communications device associated with an information recipient, an information recipient identification that identifies the information recipient and content identification particular to and distinctly identifying content selected by the information recipient, the content being provided to the information recipient by a unidirectional communication from an information provider, the content identification being stored in a database in association with the information recipient identification when the information manager receives the content identification and information recipient identification, and the content identification being linked in the database to reference data associated with the content selected by the information recipient; and

permitting access to the information manager from a second communications device distinct from the first communications device,

wherein the database enables access to the reference data linked to the content identification from the second communications device.

51. (New) The data management method of claim 50,

wherein the content is received at a content receiving device from the information provider,

wherein the first communications device receives a signal from the content receiving device when the information recipient selects content, and

wherein the first communications device forwards the information recipient identification and the content identification to the information manager based on the signal received from the content receiving device.

52. (New) The data management method of claim 50,

wherein the content is received at a content receiving device from the information provider,

wherein the first communications device receives a signal from a remote controller when the information recipient selects content, and

wherein the first communications device forwards the information recipient identification and the content identification to the information manager based on the signal received from the remote controller.

53. (New) The data management method of claim 50,

wherein the content is received at the first communications device from the information provider,

wherein the first communications device receives a signal from a remote controller when the information recipient selects content, and

wherein the first communications device forwards the information recipient identification and the content identification to the information manager based on the signal received from the remote controller.

54. (New) The data management method of claim 50,
wherein the information recipient identification and the content identification are received from the first communications device based on a signal received from a remote controller generated when the information recipient selects content, and
wherein the remote controller comprises a plurality of information designating buttons for separate individuals, each information designating button corresponding to a different information recipient identification.

55. (New) The data management method of claim 50,
wherein the content is received by and presented to the information recipient using a content receiving device, and
wherein a portable controller is used to select the selected content.

56. (New) The data management method of claim 50,
wherein the information recipient identification comprises one of a personal identification that uniquely identifies an individual information recipient, and a group identification that identifies a group of associated individual information recipients.

57. (New) The data management method of claim 50,
wherein the content identification comprises at least one of a time when the information recipient selects the selected content, and a channel by which the information recipient receives the selected content.

58. (New) The data management method of claim 50,
wherein the content identification comprises codes which identify the selected content, the codes being applied to the content prior to the content being provided to the information recipient.

59. (New) The data management method of claim 50,
wherein the reference data comprises at least one of detailed information which describes the selected content and detailed information which describes a subject of selected content.

60. (New) The data management method of claim 50,
wherein the reference data comprises at least one of date indicating information which indicates a date when the selected content is selected, a program indicating information which indicates an identity of the selected content as a media program, a program genre indicating information which indicates a genre of the selected content, a region indicating information which indicates a region in which the selected content is

selected, and a sponsor indicating information which identifies a sponsor of the selected content.

61. (New) The data management method according to claim 50,
wherein the reference data comprises at least one of date indicating information, program indicating information, program genre indicating information, region indicating information, and sponsor indicating information,

wherein at least one of the date indicating information, the program indicating information, the program genre indicating information, the region indicating information, and the sponsor indicating information is retrieved by the second communications device as at least one retrieval key using the information manager, and

wherein the at least one retrieved retrieval key is displayed on the second communications device in order based on frequency of usage.

62. (New) The data management method of claim 50,
wherein the content comprises at least one of audio information and video information.

63. (New) The data management method of claim 50,
wherein the content comprises information included in printed material.

64. (New) The data management method of claim 50,

wherein the content comprises at least one of broadcast information, aired information, and information disclosed at an event.

65. (New) The data management method of claim 50, further comprising:
storing in the database, by the information manager, the information recipient identification and the content identification.

66. (New) The data management method of claim 50,
wherein the information recipient identification and the content identification are stored in the database by an apparatus external to the information manager.

67. (New) The data management method of claim 50, further comprising:
storing in the database, by the information manager, the reference data.

68. (New) The data management method of claim 50,
wherein the reference data is stored in the database by an apparatus external to the information manager.

69. (New) The data management method of claim 50,
wherein the reference data is added to the content prior to the content being selected by the information recipient.

70. (New) The data management method of claim 50, wherein the information manager calls at least one of the content and the reference data upon receiving the information recipient identification and the content identification, the called at least one of the content and the reference data being stored in the database in association with the information recipient identification.

71. (New) The data management method of claim 50, further comprising: receiving the selected content at the information manager; and storing the selected content in the database by the information manager.

72. (New) The data management method of claim 50, further comprising: receiving the selected content at the information manager, wherein the selected content is stored in the database by an apparatus external to the information manager.

73. (New) The data management method of claim 50, wherein the information recipient receives the content using at least one of a set top box and a television receiver.

74. (New) The data management method of claim 50, wherein the content recipient identification comprises one of a code particular to a content receiving device, a code particular to a selected content identification

transmission device, and a code particular to the content recipient who selects the content.

75. (New) An information manager that receives, from a first communications device associated with an information recipient, an information recipient identification that identifies the information recipient and content identification particular to and distinctly identifying content selected by the information recipient, the content being provided to the information recipient by a unidirectional communication from an information provider, the content identification being stored in a database in association with the information recipient identification when the information manager receives the content identification and information recipient identification, and the content identification being linked in the database to reference data associated with the content selected by the information recipient, the information manager permitting access to a second communications device distinct from the first communications device, wherein the database enables access to the reference data linked to the content identification from the second communications device.

76. (New) The information manager of claim 75, further comprising:
a read-out device configured to read out the reference data stored in the database at the request of the second communications device; and
a reference data transmitter that transmits the reference data to the second communications device at the request of the second communications device.

77. (New) The information manager of claim 75, further comprising:

a read-out device configured to read out at least one of the content identification and the reference data stored in the database at the request of the second communications device; and

a data transmitter that transmits at least one of the content identification and the reference data linked to the content identification to the second communications device at the request of the second communications device.

78. (New) The information manager of claim 75,

wherein a mark added to the content indicates that the reference data has been added to the content.

79. (New) The information manager of claim 75,

wherein the information recipient receives the content at a set top box, the set top box comprising:

a content receiver;

a designation signal receiver that receives signals for selecting content from a remote controller; and

a data sender that sends content identification for selected content to the information manager via the first communications device.

80. (New) The information manager of claim 75,
wherein the first communications device comprises a set top box used by the
information recipient to receive the content, the set top box comprising:

a content receiver;

a designation signal receiver that receives signals for selecting content from a
remote controller; and

a data sender that sends content identification for selected content to the
information manager.

81. (New) The information manager of claim 75,
wherein the information recipient receives the content at a television receiver, the
television receiver comprising:

a content receiver;

a display device that displays the received content;

a designation signal receiver that receives signals for selecting content from a
remote controller; and

a data sender that sends content identification for selected content to the
information manager via the first communications device.

82. (New) The information manager of claim 75,
wherein the first communications device comprises a television receiver used by
the information recipient to receive the content, the television receiver comprising:

- a content receiver;
- a display device that displays the received content;
- a designation signal receiver that receives signals for selecting content from a remote controller; and
- a data sender that sends content identification for selected content to the information manager.

83. (New) The information manager of claim 75,
wherein the second communications device comprises one of a navigation terminal and a PHS, and
wherein a region indicator is compared with current position information resident in one of the navigation terminal and the PHS, and, when the region indicator and the current position information match a similarity threshold, at least one of the selected content and the reference data is displayed on the second communications device.

84. (New) A data management method, comprising:
providing content from an information provider through a providing arrangement, the content being associated with content identification, the providing arrangement being a unidirectional communication;
selecting content by an information recipient associated with and using a first communications device;

transmitting, when the information recipient selects content, content identification particular to and distinctly identifying each piece of selected content to an information manager through a communications arrangement;

storing in a database, by one of the information manager and an external device, the content identification transmitted to the information manager, when the information manager receives the content identification, the database associating reference data linked to the content identification with at least one recipient identifier that identifies an information recipient with identifying data; and

accessing the information manager from a second communications device distinct from the first communications device,

whereby the database enables identification of reference data linked to the content identification of the selected content in the database and transmission of the reference data to the second communications device.

85. (New) A data management system, comprising:

an information provider that provides content to an information recipient through a providing arrangement, the content being associated with content identification, the providing arrangement being a unidirectional communication, the information recipient selecting content provided through from the information provider;

a first communications device associated with the information recipient and transmitting, when the information recipient selects content, content identification particular to and distinctly identifying each piece of selected content;

an information manager that receives the content identification, particular to and distinctly identifying each piece of selected content, through a communications arrangement;

a database that stores, by one of the information manager and an external device, the content identification transmitted to the information manager, when the information manager receives the content identification, the database associating reference data linked to the content identification with at least one recipient identifier that identifies an information recipient with identifying data,

wherein the information manager is accessible from a second communications device distinct from the first communications device, and

wherein the database enables identification of reference data linked to the content identification of the selected content in the database and transmission of the reference data to the second communications device.